

## IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of claims with amendments that replaces all prior listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating a blade for a cutting tool, in particular for a knife, a pair of scissors, a saw, a household appliance, or indeed an industrial tool, the blade [(1)] being made of steel or an alloy of stainless steels and having at least one cutting edge (3, 103) extending over at least a portion of [[its]] a periphery thereof, the method ~~being characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising the following steps:

- a) making a blade body (2, 102) possessing at least one free edge (F, 4) provided in [[the]] a vicinity of ~~the location of the~~ ~~or each~~ at least one cutting edge (3, 103);
- b) projecting a make-up material (M, M') in the form of a powder (5, 105) onto the at least one free edge (F, 4), the hardness of the make-up material being greater than the hardness of the blade body;
- c) subjecting the make-up material powder (5, 105) to a laser beam [(8)] at the same time as projecting the make-up material powder so as to form a bead [(6)] or strip [(109)]

on at least a portion of [[said]] the at least one free edge (4, F), and,

d) performing a tempering and hardening operation on the blade body fitted with a bead or strip of the make-up material; and

e) forming the cutting edge (3, 103) in the bead [(6)] or strip [(109)] of make-up material (M, M').

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that said wherein the at least one free edge is formed by a flat [(4)] extending perpendicularly to a main plane [(P)] of the blade body [(2)].~~

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein the blade body (2, 102) presents dimensions that are slightly smaller than those of the final blade [(1)].~~

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein the at least one cutting edge (3, 103) is made by grinding, machining, or abrading at least the~~

bead [[(6)]] or the strip [[(109)]] of make-up material ~~(M, M')~~.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1,  
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the blade body [[(2)]] is machined  
or ground before the step of forming the bead [[(6)]] of make-up  
material.

8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A blade for a cutting tool, in  
particular a knife, a pair of scissors, a saw, a household  
appliance, or an industrial machine, the blade having at least  
one cutting edge on at least a portion of [[its]] ~~a~~ periphery  
thereof, and ~~being characterized in that it comprises having a~~  
blade body ~~(2, 102)~~, the at least one cutting edge ~~(3, 103)~~ being  
supported on [[one]] an edge of [[said]] the blade body ~~(2, 102)~~  
and made by a process comprising the following steps:

- a) making a blade body possessing at least one free edge  
provided in a vicinity of the at least one cutting edge;
- b) projecting a make-up material in the form of a powder  
onto the at least one free edge,

the hardness of the make-up material being greater than the hardness of the blade body;

c) subjecting the make-up material powder to a laser beam at the same time as projecting the make-up material powder so as to form a bead or strip on at least a portion of the at least one free edge,

d) performing a tempering and hardening operation on the blade body fitted with a bead or strip of the make-up material; and

e) forming the cutting edge in the bead or strip of make-up material.

11. (Currently Amended) A blade according to claim 10, characterized in that wherein the at least one cutting edge {3, 103} and the blade body {2, 102} are made of at least two different materials.

12. (Currently Amended) A cutting tool, in particular a knife, a pair of scissors, a saw, a household appliance, or indeed an industrial machine, characterized in that it includes having at least one blade ~~made according to claim 10 and made by a process comprising the following steps:~~

a) making a blade body possessing at least one free edge

provided in a vicinity of the at least one cutting edge;

b) projecting a make-up material in the form of a powder onto the at least one free edge,

the hardness of the make-up material being greater than the hardness of the blade body;

c) subjecting the make-up material powder to a laser beam at the same time as projecting the make-up material powder so as to form a bead or strip on at least a portion of the at least one free edge,

d) performing a tempering and hardening operation on the blade body fitted with a bead or strip of the make-up material; and

e) forming the cutting edge in the bead or strip of make-up material.